

Holm, Frits Vilhelm

1916-1929

[14 John St., NYC]



F R I T S   H O L M ,

K.R., G.C.C.M., K.C.S., K.C.L.O., R.R.C., LL.D., D.C.L., M.R.A.S.

( NAVIGATOR, EXPLORER, WRITER, LECTURER )

Decorated with the Grand Cross with Swords of the Order of St. Cyrillus and St. Methodius and the Knight-Commander Cross of the Order of St. Sylvester (HOLY SEE), the Knight-Commander Badge and Star of the Order "El Busto del Libertador" (U.S. of VENEZUELA), the Knight's Cross of the Royal Order of the Redeemer (GREECE), the Coronation Medal and the II class of the Royal Red Cross (SPAIN) and with 10 additional Orders and Medals from RUSSIA, FRANCE (2), JAPAN (2), SPAIN, BELGIUM, PORTUGAL, LIECHTENSTEIN, MEXICO, etc. etc. -- in all 21.

Born near Copenhagen, Denmark, July 23, 1881. Elder son of the late Consul-General Frederik P. and Emma G. M. (Bording) Holm. Unmarried. Lutheran. Passed a preliminary examination at the Copenhagen University and received (1895-1900) an officer's education in the DANISH ROYAL NAVY, visiting many countries on men-o'-war, but resigning after passing his navigator's examination, and before being commissioned. After seeing the Paris Exposition (1900) he went to the Far East while still 19, employed in Shanghai and Hankow in journalistic and commercial positions (1901-3) and later as manager of the Japan Daily Advertiser at Yokohama. In 1904, during the Russo-Japanese war, he left Japan for Denmark via U.S.A., where he visited the St. Louis World's Fair as correspondent, completing in 41 months his first circumnavigation. He was engaged in special journalistic work in London (1905-7) under the Earl of Kintore, G.C.M.G., Sir Wm. Ramsay, K.C.B., and others, frequently visiting the continent. In July 1906 he represented the Associated Press at the Interparliamentary Peace Conference in the House of Lords, where, as on many other occasions, he met statesmen and leaders from all over the world. During the present war he again visited London (Spt.-Oct. 1914) for the Associated Press.

When 25 Dr. Holm organized and commanded a scientific mission into the far interior of China. The archaeologic result of THE HOLM-NESTORIAN EXPEDITION TO SIAN-FU (1907-8), which covered by caravan and native houseboat more than 2500 miles over little known ground, was the bringing to western civilization, in spite of attempted assassination, illness and intrigues, of a TWO-TON, ten-foot monolithic replica of the famous Nestorian Monument of A.D. 781 -- from 1908-16 in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. "The Nestorian Monument" (Chicago, 1909) describes the tablet, its Christian Syro-Chinese inscription and the expedition, through which he completed his second circumnavigation in 16 months. He has lectured, in 3 languages, in 31 universities and institutions in the United States, Canada and Mexico on his explorations, which were commended in writing by such men as Theodore Roosevelt, Vilhelm Thomsen, Archbishop Ireland, Andrew D. White, Friedrich Hirth and many others and about which hundreds of illustrated articles have appeared and mention been made in the Encyclopaedia Britannica (Sigan-fu), the Encyclopaedia Americana (Sian-fu), the various "Who's Who" here and abroad and in other standard works.

He is the author of many papers on Far Eastern and other subjects; a former editor of the "Records of the Past" (Washington); a book-reviewer on The New York Times (1909-12) and a staff contributor to Petermanns Mitteilungen (Gotha). He is a Doctor of Laws, Civil Law, Philosophy and Science; a (Boy) Scout Commissioner; the Chief of Naval Staff of the (volunteer) FIRST AVIATION CORPS, and a Royal Sworn Interpreter-Translator under Danish Law. He is considered a linguist, as well as an expert on Chinese archaeology and on certain numismatic questions. He is a gold-medalist (4 times), an honorary, a corresponding, a life and an ordinary member of 20 scientific and humane societies and academies (royal and otherwise) in 11 countries, including membership in the Royal Asiatic Society (London). His clubs are the Authors' Club (London) and the Royal Yacht Club (Copenhagen).



14 JOHN STREET  
NEW YORK

CABLES: (ALL CODES)  
FRITSHOLM, NEWYORK

Jan. 15, 1920.

The President and Officers,

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,

156th Street and Broadway, City.

Gentlemen:-

Referring to the learned Curator Wood's gracious communication to me of the 7th inst., I beg to express great satisfaction that the Society has such a good opinion of the work of Mr. Karl F. Skoog.

In consequence I beg that you will kindly accept, as a gift from me for permanent exhibition, the Emerson plaque by Mr. Skoog which I recently entrusted to your care as a loan.

I remain, with best wishes,

Cordially yours,

  
JURIS DOCTOR.

DR. FRITS HOLM  
14 JOHN STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

November 5, 1922.

Dear Curator and Learned:-

May I venture to ask you a question or two ?

Have you, that is the A.N.S., a magazine on numismatics, which you publish regularly, or some similar bulletin or other publication ? In that case I would feel greatly obliged for a sample-copy, if it is but an insignificant and non-costly publication.

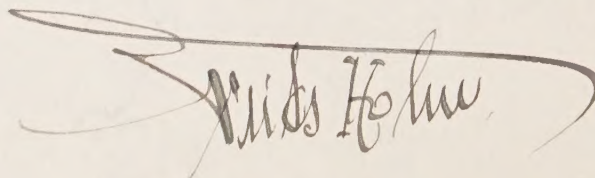
Also, do you know of any other numismatic publications in this country ?

Furthermore, do you know of anywhere or any manner, by which I might obtain a typed or printed list of all the numismatic societies and museums in the world ? --- as well as a list of the more important collectors in this and other countries ?

If you will kindly give me the necessary hints, I could conceive -- with your gracious permission -- of a situation, whereby I might perhaps make a private arrangement with your secretary or some other assistant on the staff of the A.N.S., in order to have a list typed such as desired.

What do you say to me, Sir, in reply, on this bleak and autumnal morning; and are you well ? And, if you are absent, will one of your friends condescend to reply to the above ?

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Frits Holm". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the left and underlining the name.



November 7th, 1922

Dr. Frits Holm  
14 John Street  
New York

Your Excellency!!

May I venture to reply to your august  
communication of November 5th?

We publish no magazine, only monographs  
of this and that subject. However, there is a  
publication which I think would answer your problems.  
This is entitled The Numismatist, and is published  
by the American Numismatic Association. If I remem-  
ber rightly, they also get out a printed list of  
Numismatic Excellencies! If so, you should drop a  
line to their Secretary, Mr. Jonathan M. Swanson, 22  
Camp Street, Newark, N.J. I think for a considera-  
tion he will comply with all of your requests! We,  
ourselves, have no list of members which we can give  
out.

Assuring that that I am well, and trusting  
that you are also, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HW/E



THE L. MARSHALL THOMPSON  
HOTELS  
NEW YORK

WRITTEN FROM THE LANGWELL

14 John Street, 13/2/23



THE MADISON SQUARE HOTEL  
37 MADISON AVENUE  
FACING MADISON SQUARE PARK  
"THE HOME ON THE SQUARE"  
AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PLAN

Dear and Virtuous Master of Numismatics:-

Colonel Duffield write/me on the 9th, that

there may be a number of men, who might like to  
know of the Bruce-Joy medal, who are members of the  
A.N.S., tho' not of the Am. Numis. Ass.



THE WESTMINSTER HOTEL  
420 WEST 116<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
IN THE CENTRE OF THE  
EDUCATIONAL SECTION  
AMERICAN PLAN

Probably that is so, and probably they  
would like to know.



THE LANGWELL HOTEL  
123 WEST 44<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
"JUST OFF BROADWAY"  
IN THE HEART OF THE METROPOLIS  
AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PLAN

Could I not honestly obtain, or borrow,  
a list of your members, so as to check off those  
that we have already sent an announcement to as mem-  
bers of the A.N. Association? It would be so joyful  
all around to be able to do just that.

Cheerfully,

*W. H. L.*



February 14th, 1923

Dr. Frits Holm  
14 John Street  
New York

Excellentissimo Diavolo:

Our honorable and august Council has a hard and fast, ~~not~~ adamant, rule that addresses of our members must not be given out; but as in our Proceedings we print the list of members, anyone can use this who gets a copy, therefore may it please Your Excellency to accept the enclosed! Do not let your gratitude take such a joyous form that you shake off a few of your medals and decorations!

Very truthfully yours,

HW/E  
Enc.

January 23rd, 1923

Mrs. Frite Holm  
37 Madison Avenue  
New York City

Dear Mrs. Holm:

On behalf of the Society, I beg to thank you very much for sending us a copy of the medal of Dr. Frits Holm. We are very glad to add this to our Cabinet and wish to express our appreciation of your thought for us.

Again thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E





The St. Regis

New York

Oct 1st  
1929.

It is suggested that any label that may be attached to the late Albert Bruce-Joy's memorial medal of Frits Holm's Chinese expedition, in case it mentions him, mention him as follows:

His Highness Frits HOLM, Duke of Kolachine.

For the kind consideration of which Prince Holm offers his best thanks.

American Numismatic Society

New York